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URBAN DISTRICT OF FLEET



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

for 1959

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

W. C. D. WALMSLEY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (died 5/2/59)

J. CRAIG LINDSAY, T.D., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

(Acting—February to September 1959)

J. COUTTS MILNE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

(from September 1959)

Public Health Inspector:

F. E. SMALE, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1959

Area: 3,694 acres.

Population: 11,680 (estimated mid-year 1959) - (Census 1951 - 9,018).

Number of inhabited houses: 3,788.

Sum represented by penny rate: £707 (estimated 1.4.60).

Rateable value: £172,349.

General Rate: 19/- in the £.

Birth rate: 20.46 (crude); 20.87 (standardised).


Death rate: 11.0 (crude); 10.34 (standardised).

Infantile death rate per 1,000 births: 8.4.

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis: 1.

Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases: Nil.

Tuberculosis death rate: Pulmonary - 0.085. Non-Pulmonary - Nil.



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THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S

REPORT FOR 1959

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Fleet Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report for the year 1959, prepared according to the directions of the Minister of Health.

For the greater part of the year Dr. J. Craig Lindsay, Medical Officer of Health, Aldershot, acted as Medical Officer of Health to the Council and credit for much of the work done is due to him, responsibility for compilation of the report being mine.

Points of note in the vital statistical figures are that the estimated population is higher by some 979 persons than in the previous year; the birth rate is higher, the death rate lower and the infant mortality rate considerably lower than in 1958. The incidence of infectious diseases was very much higher owing to the biennial increase in the number of cases of measles. No case of poliomyelitis nor of diphtheria was reported.

Much time and effort was spent by the staff in carrying out the poliomyelitis vaccination programme and in this connection the invaluable help of the private medical practitioners in the town is gratefully acknowledged. Recognition too should be made of the preventative health work carried on by private practitioners in their immunisation of children against diphtheria and whooping cough.

I am grateful to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement and help, to Mr. Collier, Clerk of the Council, Mr. Smale, Public Health Inspector and Miss Whitworth for their ready assistance enabling me to carry out my duties.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. COUTTS MILNE.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	Total
Number	132	107	239
Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	..	..	20.46
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births ..	..	..	2.5

Stillbirths

Number .. .. .	..	5	5
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. .. .	..	..	20.5
Total Live and Still Births	132	112	244
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	2	—	2

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births .. .. .	..	8.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	..	8.58
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	..	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) .. .. .	..	4.18
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births) .. .. .	..	4.18
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ..	..	24.58

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths .. .. .	..	..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. .. .	..	..	Nil

Deaths:

Deaths (all causes)	70	59	129
Death rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	..	..	11.0

Comparative Rates

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1958	20.16	10.44	25.0
1959	20.87	10.34	8.4
England and Wales (1959)	16.5	11.6	22.0

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1959

							M	F
Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Cancer — Stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Cancer — lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
Cancer — breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
Cancer — uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Cancer — other	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	8
Leukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	7
Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	11
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	7
Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

There are two District Nurses, (Miss McMonigall and Miss Phillips), who are qualified midwives and since the 5th July, 1948, have been under the jurisdiction of the Hampshire County Council.

There is also a home-help service in operation and this is now administered by a County Council organiser with headquarters at Basingstoke. I am indebted to the Divisional Organiser, Miss M. E. Reed, for the following information.

“The number of new cases assisted in the Fleet Urban District during the year 1959 was 57, as follows:

Maternity—20; general sickness—12; post-hospital—5; Aged sick—4; aged infirm—5; post-maternity—9; Child care—2.

There were 9 helpers on the register at the end of the year, an increase of 3 during the year.”

This area for general hospital purposes, comes under the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

The Fleet and District Hospital contains 33 beds—(9 male, 14 female, 6 children's and 4 private wards) and provides general medical and surgical treatment. There is a separate children's ward. There is no resident Medical Officer. There is a consultant surgical and medical staff in addition to the Doctors in practice in the area, who attend at the hospital.

Cases of Infectious Diseases are treated at Northfield Hospital, Aldershot. The ambulance service provides for removal of patients to hospital through the local depots at Aldershot and Farnborough.

The County Council is responsible for School Medical Services, Mental Deficiency, Maternity and Child Welfare, Orthopaedic Services, the care of premature infants and illegitimate children and the Tuberculosis service (prevention, care and after-care only).

The special clinic for Venereal Diseases is held at the Northfield Hospital, Aldershot, and under the jurisdiction of the Regional Hospital Board, as is the treatment part of the Tuberculosis service.

Laboratory Facilities:

The Public Health Laboratory Service is at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, (Telephone 3807), and the Director is Dr. M. H. Hughes. All types of bacteriological examinations are carried out there.

Chemical examinations of water, etc., were carried out at the Borough Analyst's Laboratory, Southampton, by arrangement with the Southampton County Borough Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres:

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Clinics are held at the schools as required.

Special Clinics:

Women

Held every Monday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Northfield Hospital, Aldershot.

Men

Held every Monday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Northfield Hospital, Aldershot.

Chest Clinic:

Held every Monday 9.30 to 11 a.m., Tuesday 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at the Northfield Hospital, Aldershot.

Child Welfare:

Fleet

Every Monday at the Institute, Albert Street, Fleet.

Crookham

The second and fourth Tuesdays in every month at the Military Families Centre, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Crookham.

The County Council Health Visitor and School Nurse is Mrs. Stockdale and for the Crookham Ward, Miss E. Simpson, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Outside the District but serving the area, Orthopaedic Clinics for school children and infants are held at Aldershot on the first Tuesday in every month, and School Eye Clinics are held at the Aldershot General Hospital every Thursday afternoon—by appointment only.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccination:

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccination Prophylaxis for infants and school children is done by the Local Authority for the County Council and it is a free service. Parents may elect to have their children done privately by their own Doctor. Children under school age can still be immunised at the weekly child welfare clinic.

**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES**

Infectious Diseases:

General:

In England and Wales in 1959 there was a gratifying decrease in the number of cases of poliomyelitis notified, being nearly half the number reported in 1958. The reduction in cases of Whooping Cough noted in 1958 continued, being again less than half the number in 1957 and previous years. On the other hand Scarlet fever and Diphtheria cases showed an increase, London being the chief centre of the disease. Measles showed its accustomed biennial increase—in Fleet there were 353 cases of infectious diseases notified; more than twice the number in 1958 and due to the biennial increase of Measles cases. Only 5 cases of Whooping Cough were reported, the smallest number for a number of years.

Comparative Tables

Disease	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	1	1
Pneumonia	49	57
Measles	57	284
Whooping Cough	18	5
Erysipelas	4	4
Dysentery	13	2
Typhoid Fever	1	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—
Food Poisoning	1	—

Prophylactic Immunisation Schemes:

Immunisation schemes continue to play a major part in reducing the incidence of infectious diseases in this country. Three serious and disabling diseases have come or are coming under control in this way; viz. diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis. To many people the former disease is now only a name but the time has not yet been reached when we can afford to do without active protection against the disease. The school outbreak at Barking in the last quarter of 1958 showed that it can still spread in a community. Here 11 cases occurred and 14 carriers were detected, the main focus of infection being centered in an infants' school. Of the 11 cases, 7 had never been immunised, 2 had begun but not completed a course of primary immunisation 5 and 7 years previously, one had been fully immunised 8 years earlier with a reinforcing dose 4 years before and another had been immunised 12 years before with a reinforcing dose 8 years before. This outbreak showed, if proof were needed, that primary immunisation in infancy by itself is not enough and that reinforcing doses later are required. No case has occurred in this district in the past 13 years and in this we have been fortunate as reinforcing doses have been maintained at a low level. The poliomyelitis immunisation programme has undoubtedly contributed to this low level but as the proportion of children who have had their third polio injection increases so the work of giving reinforcing doses can be stepped up.

In this connection it is worth quoting the Chief Medical Officer's comments in the Report of the Ministry of Health for 1958—"Events in 1958 should act as a warning to those who feel that diphtheria is a thing of the past and that an increase in it's incidence is improbable. It is clear that there is still a danger that this disease could again become a serious problem and the efforts to maintain a high level of immunisation of children cannot be relaxed."

The following table shows the number immunised during the year.

Number of children who completed a course of primary immunisation and who received reinforcing injections:

Age	Diphtheria only	Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria and Tetanus	Whooping Cough	Booster
Under 1 year	11	5	158	1	1	—
1-4	2	1	23	—	—	—
5-14	—	1	5	1	1	—
Total	13	7	186	2	2	66

The majority of the injections were given by private practitioners.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Ample supplies of vaccine were available by the beginning of the year and intensive efforts were made to get as many as possible of the eligible age groups vaccinated. Vaccination was offered at Child Welfare Clinics, through the schools, at places of work and at open evening sessions and at Doctors' surgeries. The response from adolescents was better than in most other areas, following a fatal adult case of poliomyelitis in 1958, and the unfortunate death of a famous footballer in April further stimulated the interest and concern of young adults of both sexes. Press publicity is not always helpful. One well known weekly paper featured an article entitled "The frightening facts about the polio muddle" but on close perusal, the facts were not so frightening and one felt the emphasis should have been placed on some of the recommendations such as increasing the strength of the vaccine, giving 4 instead of 3 injections, making the vaccine available to older age groups up to say the age of 40 years (as has now been done) and more and better propaganda on a national scale.

Poliomyelitis vaccination has not yet been carried out long enough in this country to entirely demonstrate it's value but certain figures available justify continued confidence. The total uncorrected notifications for 1959 in England and Wales were 1342 compared with 2398 in 1958, 5415 in 1957 and 7305 in 1955. In the United States, where vaccination has been carried out for a longer period, the total number of paralytic cases reported in 1958 was about 20 per cent higher than the corresponding number in 1957, but much of this increase was due to an epidemic in Detroit where 164 of the 233 paralytic cases had not received vaccine and only 18 of the 69 inoculated cases had received 3 doses. In 1958 the rate of paralytic cases among triply vaccinated was 0.19 per 100,000 whereas among less than triply vaccinated persons it was 0.71 per 100,000. These figures warrant confidence in the protection afforded by 3 doses of vaccine.

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated in the district during 1959.

	Completed 2nd injections	3rd injections
Children born in years 1943-59..	937	1703
Adults born in years 1933-42 ..	1091	322
Expectant Mothers	191	122
General Practitioners and their families	—	5
Total	2219	2152

Vaccination against Smallpox:

The state of primary infant vaccination may be considered reasonably good, a total of 154 babies under 12 months of age being vaccinated. There were 239 live births during the year and the equivalent of 64.4% of the children born were vaccinated.

This figure may be compared with that of 68% for the County of Hampshire and with a rate of 44.5% for England and Wales for the year 1958. The acceptance rate for infant vaccination varies greatly in different parts of the country—from 12.79 in Brecon to 68.7 in Cambridgeshire and 72.55 in Carlisle.

Tuberculosis:

The number of new cases notified was 8; all being transfers from other districts. There was one death from respiratory Tuberculosis.

Comparative Tables of New Cases and Deaths

Year	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY
1955	12	1	1	—
1956	10	—	1	—
1957	12	—	—	—
1958	9	—	—	—
1959	8	—	1	—

Venereal Diseases:

No cases of Venereal Diseases were specially brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Infestation:

No cases of nits or scabies were reported to the Department.

Disinfection:

4 rooms (four houses) were disinfected after notifiable diseases or on request.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1959

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Fleet Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1959 and my thirteenth as your Public Health Inspector. The sewerage of the un-drained parts of the district continued throughout the year with impressive speed so that, at the end of the year only one section of the whole scheme remained to be completed in 1960. The subsequent connection of houses to the new sewers necessitated a great deal of inspection work and this in its turn resulted in a slight reduction of general routine inspection work in other fields but not to the detriment of such work. The holding of several successful open poliomyelitis clinics and also clinics at factories in the area resulted in additional administrative work, not strictly within my jurisdiction as a public health inspector, but which had of necessity to be done where the public health staff is small; nevertheless I feel the time spent on such work to have been well worth while.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

The whole of the water supply for the area is provided by the Mid-Wessex Water Company, and I am indebted to the Chief Engineer of the Company for the following report:

“1. Sources of Supply.

Water is supplied in detail for the whole area by the Mid-Wessex Water Company and is obtained from wells in the chalk at Itchel, Greywell and Lasham.

An adequate supply for all purposes without restriction was maintained throughout the year.

2. Treatment.

The water from the various chalk wells serving the area varies in hardness from 16.5 to 21 grains/gallon and softening is carried out at Itchel, Greywell and Lasham in order to reduce the hardness to the statutory limit of 12 grains/gallon.

The water from all sources is practically sterile in the raw state, before treatment, but is given a precautionary dose of chlorine during the normal process of treatment, in conformity with modern water-works practice.

3. Purity of Supply.

Samples of water are taken regularly and frequently by the Company before and after treatment at the works and in supply. They are examined chemically and bacteriologically by the Company's resident Chemists and Bacteriologists and in addition are submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratory for independent examination and report at regular intervals.

The reports during the past year on all treated waters have shown a consistently high standard of organic and bacterial purity.

4. The water distributed in this area is a normal chalk-derived water and has no plumbo-solvent action.

5. No action was necessary, so far as the Company was concerned, to deal with any form of contamination."

WATER SAMPLING

(a) Public Main Supply.

The four quarterly samples of the Mid-Wessex Company's main supply were taken from different parts of the district and all were reported satisfactory, both chemically and bacteriologically. The hardness figures for the four samples were 10.9 degrees (Clarke's scale), 11.6, 12.8 and 12.2.

(b) Well Supply.

One sample of water from a shallow well situated in the grounds of a large house was submitted for bacteriological examination and was reported unsatisfactory owing to the presence of coliform bacilli and faecal coli. As the supply was proposed to be used as an alternative to an existing domestic mains supply its use was forbidden.

(c) Public Swimming Baths.

There is one open-air privately owned public swimming pool in the district and the water (a main supply) is treated by filtration, aeration and chlorination. In previous years samples taken from this pool were always satisfactory but of five samples submitted for bacteriological examination only 2 were reported satisfactory. In the other cases the plate counts were very high and an increase in the chlorine dosage was advised together with a complete overhaul of the plant during the winter.

Sewage Works Effluent.

The Military Authorities continued to take monthly samples of the effluent from the Military Disposal Works at Crookham and results of the analyses were received by the Department. They were reported satisfactory.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. J. D. Chivers, for the following report:

“ The gas plant, engines and electrical equipment at the Compressor Station, Kenilworth Road also the pumping plant and electrical equipment at Hitches Lane Station have been maintained in a satisfactory condition giving good service throughout.

The ejectors have been maintained in good order and have been operating satisfactorily.

Contracts for the completion of the main drainage in the Urban District now being carried out by Messrs. T. H. Contractors are well in the advanced stages. Good progress has been maintained, approximately 5½ miles of sewers have been laid and are now in use. The ejector station in Aldershot Road, Crookham has been completed and now in operation.

The pumping station in Avondale Road has been constructed and machinery is being installed.

Work at the Sewage Disposal Works is progressing very satisfactory, the sludge and storm water tanks have been completed and in operation. Construction of settlement tanks, humus tanks, and filters are well advanced and will be available for use early in 1960.

Public Cleansing.

Weekly collections of refuse and salvage have been maintained throughout the district and disposal of refuse is carried out by controlled tipping at Calthorpe Park.

Year	Total sales	Average Monthly Sales
1958	£831 9 7	£69 5 9
1959	£866 14 11	£72 4 7

A total of 132 Tons of paper was collected giving a monthly average 11 Tons 1½ Cwt.

HOUSING

My comments in the last report regarding the availability of labour for carrying out jobbing work still apply but the position may ease a little as small plots of land become difficult to find resulting in the small builders looking for a different type of building work.

Improvement Grants.

The “ discretionary ” grant scheme was supplemented by the provision for a “ standard ” grant scheme in the new House Purchase and Housing Act which came into force in July 1959. The introduction of the latter scheme together with a lessening of the conditions attaching to the old discretionary grant scheme was thought to provide a much needed incentive to owners to provide the older type of structurally sound houses with modern amenities.

Twenty-two applications for improvement grants (16 discretionary and 6 standard) were approved during the year, compared with four discretionary only in 1958. The discretionary grant schemes approved were mainly for the alteration of existing outbuildings or the building of extensions to form bathrooms, the provision of hot water supplies in each case and the provision of main drainage in some cases. In the case of the standard grant schemes, the provision of one or more of the five standard amenities by the conversion of small third bedrooms occurred in four cases. In only one case was the applicant an owner of a tenanted house.

Rent Act 1957 — Certificates of Disrepair.

In 1959, three applications for certificates of disrepair were received as compared with 7 for the previous year.

The action on the applications was as follows:

Landlords' undertaking to carry out work	..	..	2
Certificates of disrepair issued	..	..	Nil
Application not proceeded with	..	..	1

As in the previous year, the applications were dealt with by the Public Health Sub-Committee, under delegated powers, and this procedure made for early consideration and the speedy issue of the various forms.

Two applications for cancellation of certificates of disrepair were acceded to on completion of the work.

Housing Act 1957.

Both dwelling houses on which demolition orders were made in 1958 were still occupied at the end of 1959 but the house on which a closing order was made was vacated by the death of the occupier.

The position regarding the houses included in Stages 1 and 2 of the Council's approved proposals remained the same and for the same reason, i.e. the elderly condition of the occupiers and the delay in the building of old people's dwellings for re-housing.

Housing Building Progress.

Your Surveyor (Mr. J. D. Chivers) has kindly supplied the following information: "No Council houses were built during the year.

Total number of Post War Houses erected.

Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	354
Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	..	..	657"

I am indebted to Mr. M. G. Atkins, Housing Officer, for the follow report:

" During the year twenty five tenancies were surrendered of which sixteen were tenants nominated by the N.G.T.E.

The Council's policy of transferring existing tenants to other Council accommodation more suitable to means, size of family, etc., was maintained and the transfer of four such tenants was effected. In addition to this, one house was sold to the tenant in occupation.

A considerable re-grading of the lists was made during the year as a result of which sixteen applications were classified as priority and nineteen non-priority. The thirty eight families referred to in my previous report as being retained with little hope of the Council being able to help them with their housing problems were circularised and only fourteen expressed a wish that their application should be retained. The Council decided that the housing list in general should be opened again to receive fresh applications and thirty were received during the year.

One vacancy was created in the Old People's Bungalows; a further ten applications were received during the year."

Caravans.

The licensed caravan site in private ownership at Crookham, continued to be maintained in a most satisfactory condition, and all 73 plots for which the site is licensed were in use at the end of the year. An application for the use of an extension site for twenty caravans was approved early in 1960.

The laying of a new sewer in the vicinity enabled drainage work to proceed with the connection of sink waste drains and a w.c. at each plot, to the new sewer. On completion this will, together with the provision of electricity, make the standard facilities very high due in large measures to the progressive outlook of the site operator as well as to the co-operation of the Local Authority.

The policy of the Council with regard to individual site for caravans, as stated in previous reports, was maintained.

RODENT CONTROL

Meetings of the North Hants Rodent Control Committee, of which the Council is one of the seven constituent members in North East Hants, continued to be held quarterly. Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the War Department attend the meetings.

Locally, a free service to both business and private premises is given.

In view of the infestation-free history of the Council's sewers, the Ministry have recommended that further testing of the system be deferred until 1960.

A Summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Operator is given below.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	L.A.	Dwelling-houses	Agricultural	Business premises	
1. No. of premises inspected ..	7	236	46	179	468
2. No. of premises found to be infested by rats ..	7	112	2	52	173
3. No. of premises found to be infested by mice ..	—	18	—	11	29
4. No. of inspected premises treated by L.A.	7	130	2	63	202
5. No. of block control schemes carried out					67
6. No. of visits for inspection and treatment					2670

Pest Destruction.

The routine measures of spraying the Fleet Pond and small ponds and ditches in the vicinity and treating the road gullies for mosquito prevention were continued.

Dwelling-houses were treated for the following pests:

Ants—3; Cockroaches—1; Flies—9; in addition 109 wasps' nests were destroyed.

SHOPS

The County Council are responsible through their Weights and Measures Department for the closing and other provisions of the Shops Act, except for the sanitary provisions contained in Section 38 of the Shops Act 1950, which is administered by the Local Sanitary Authority. The provisions of the latter section are carried out.

DRAINAGE

Sewerage Extension Scheme.

By the end of the year, the construction of sewers in the unsewered parts of the district was almost completed except for a small part of Crookham. It was expected that by the middle of 1960 the whole scheme involving, in addition to the construction of new sewers, the building of a new pumping station and extensions and additions at the Sewage Outfall Works, would be completed.

At the end of the year, 77 premises had been connected to the new sewers.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

There are two producers of milk within the Urban District, (both producing Tuberculin Tested milk) and seven retailers of bottled milk.

87 inspections of dairies were made during the year and no statutory action was called for.

On 6th December, 1955 the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order 1955, came into operation, the effect of which was to specify the Urban District as an area in which only tuberculin tested or heat-treated milk could be sold.

99 samples of milk were taken for adulteration, nine of which were unsatisfactory. A report on samples taken, including milk, will be found in a later paragraph.

Sampling:

A total of 46 samples was taken with the following results:

Designation	No. of samples submitted	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test	
		P	F	P	F	P(neg.)	F(pos.)
Pasteurised ..	37	37	—	37	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	9	9	—	9	—	—	—
Sterilised ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	46	46	—	46	—	—	—

It is very satisfactory to report that all 46 samples taken for bacteriological examination passed the prescribed tests.

Of 46 bottled (pasteurised) samples, 15 were from the three schools in the area.

No action was required under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, which provides for action where milk is suspected of having caused disease in human beings.

At the local dairy an “H.T.S.T.” plant was installed in lieu of the old “Holder” plant which had given good service for many years. Samples from the new plant proved satisfactory. The installation of a chilled water plant and additional cold storage facilities together with the new “H.T.S.T.” plant must result in the production of milk with better keeping quality without reducing the safety.

Designated Milk:

The following licences were in force at the end of the year:

Pasteurised (including Tuberculin tested (pasteurised)	}	1 Dealer's (pasteuriser's)
Tuberculin Tested (raw)		5 Dealers'
Sterilised		3 Dealers'
		2 Dealers'

The one pasteurising establishment in the area is licensed by the Local Authority on behalf of the County Council.

(b) Meat and Food Inspection.

The butchers in the area, except in one case, obtain all their supplies of meat from wholesalers. One butcher purchases animals at markets and has them slaughtered at a licensed slaughterhouse in Aldershot. The meat is, generally of a high standard and only relatively small amounts have to be condemned at the retail shops. There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the area, the two licensed before 1939 not having been re-opened.

The following articles of food were surrendered and condemned as being unfit for human food.

Ham, pork and veal (tinned)	67lbs.	Fish	25½ stones
Tinned foods (various) ..	46	Prawns	7½lbs.
Sausages	11lbs.	Rabbits (frozen) ..	60lbs.
Butter	43lbs.		

(c) FOOD

In accordance with Circular 19/56 the following information is given regarding the inspection of food and food premises in the area:

(i) Number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year, remains the same.

Type of Business	No.
Butchers	7
Bakehouses and confectioners	9
Cooked meats	2
Fish (raw)	2
Fish (fried)	1
Greengrocery	9
Grocers (inc. "mixed" shops)	28
Cafes (inc. snack bars)	7
Factory and school canteens	5
Ice-cream premises	42

(ii) Number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959.

Type of Business	No.
Butchers	5
Ice-cream	42
Dairies	2

(iii) A total of 439 inspections of all types of food premises was carried out during the year. In 1950 the Council made byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 and no statutory action was necessary to secure compliance with them.

(iv) There is no clean food guild in the area, reliance being placed on individual advice and information on food hygiene at routine inspections.

(v) The small amounts of carcase beef and offal and other raw foods are disposed of in a local factory boiler fire. Other foodstuffs, including tinned foods, are disposed of on the Council refuse tip.

(vi) No special examination of stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary.

(vii) One cafe manufactures a small quantity of ice cream for consumption in the cafe. The provisions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.,) Regulations 1947-52 are carried out both at these premises and at the 42 retail premises where only a pre-packed article is sold.

(viii) **Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-56.**

Routine inspection of food premises provides the main platform for food hygiene propaganda but it cannot be stressed too often that a high standard of hygiene in food shops can only be maintained where the food handler and particularly the proprietor of the establishment are hygiene conscious and also where the customer also demands a high standard in return for his custom.

Informal action only is necessary to secure the remedy of the few contraventions which occur.

Food Poisoning.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning in the district during the year, and no isolated cases were reported.

(d) Adulteration, etc.

The County Council is the responsible Authority.

I am indebted to Mr. J. S. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer, for the following report:

"1. I beg to report that during the year ended the 31st December, 1959, 104 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Fleet Urban District Council.

2. Milk Samples.

The total number comprises 99 samples of milk, including 34 of Channel Islands milk. Nine samples were unsatisfactory, as follows:

Following informal checks at a dairy, a consignment from one producer was found to be unsatisfactory due to slight adulteration with water. Official samples were taken at the farm, where it was found that it was the practice to run water through the milking units after each cow had been milked, as a precaution against infection from mastitis. The units were allowed to drain but a check showed that a small amount of water remained unless they were disconnected from the pipe-lines through which the milk was passed, and this no doubt accounted for the adulteration in the samples. Steps were immediately taken by the farmer to prevent any recurrence, and further samples which were procured subsequently, proved to be genuine. In the circumstances and having regard to what was accepted as the inadvertent introduction of water into the milk, the matter was dealt with by way of caution.

3. **Miscellaneous Samples.**

Five samples of the various articles other than milk including one Ice-Cream, were obtained and reported to be genuine. The sample of Ice Cream was manufactured locally and reported to contain 13.4% of fat, which is well above the minimum required.

4. **General.**

It will doubtless be appreciated that many products sold within the Fleet Urban District are subject to checks in other areas. This remark applies particularly to pre-packed articles, and in certain cases to milk received from dairies outside the immediate locality."

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION WORK

Details of the inspections carried out during the year are given

Premises Inspected								No. of Inspections
Re: Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	671
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Refuse collection (dustbins) and disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Rats and Mice destruction	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Shops (re Shops Act)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Swimming pools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Pest Extermination	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Infectious Diseases (inc. polio vaccination)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	125
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
Keeping of animals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pet shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rivers pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15

Meat and Food Inspection.

Butchers shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	82
Fishmongers and Fishfriers	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Food preparing premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Cafes and canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Miscellaneous milk visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Miscellaneous food visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Ice cream premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Dwelling Houses.

Under Public Health Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Re-inspections under Public Health Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Under Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Re-inspections under Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Inspection re filthy or verminous premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Inspections re Improvement grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Re-inspections re improvement grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Inspections re certificates of disrepair under Rent Act 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Re-inspection re above	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Miscellaneous Housing visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	38

Total 1834

Drainage.

Alterations, additions and repair	..	..	..	..	..	128
Drain stoppages cleared	..	..	..	..	..	81
Drain tests (water and smoke)	..	..	..	..	..	362
Cesspools emptied	..	..	..	..	..	297
Cesspools (loads)	..	..	..	..	..	358

The Rodent Operator also carries out the work of unstopping drains, on request, at a charge to the occupier of 2/- per hour. This scheme is to the advantage of the occupier and is instrumental in the prevention of public health nuisances.

Cesspools are emptied at a cost to the occupier of £1.0.0 per load of 750 gallons. The work is carried out under contract to the Council by a private contractor (Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Ltd.) This arrangement works well.

Complaints.

Housing defects	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rodent infestation	..	..	..	..	..	152
Drainage (obstructed drains)	..	..	..	..	..	85
Pest infestation (general)	..	..	..	..	..	118
Public health nuisances (general)	..	..	..	..	..	4
Requests for fumigations	..	..	..	..	..	3

Total 263

FACTORIES ACT 1937 TO 1959

The prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act 1937 are now given as an Appendix to the Report.

NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR

Form of Notice	Number served	Premises	Defects
Informal:			
(a) Sanitary defects ..	12	12	134
(b) Other (dustbins) ..	10	10	10
Total ..	22	22	154

Statutory:			
(a) Sanitary defects ..	—	—	—
(b) Others	—	—	—
Total ..	—	—	—

In conclusion I must once again express to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee my appreciation of their support. I also express to your Clerk and Surveyor, my thanks for their continued co-operation during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentleman,
Your Obedient Servant,
F. E. SMALE.

Public Health Inspector.

June, 1960

APPENDIX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF FLEET IN THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspection made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prose- cuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by by Local Authorities	3	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	95	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	50	95	—	—

2. Cases in which **DEFECTS** were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were insti- tuted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—		—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	.	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	1	1	.	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	5	5	—	3	—
Total	8	8	—	4	—

Factories Act 1937 — Section 34.

Two certificates of “ Means of escape in case of fire ” were issued during the year.

PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

NIL RETURN

Signed — J. COUTTS MILNE,
Medical Officer of Health.

Date — 20th June, 1960.